In the Claims:

Amend original claims 1-2, 5-6, 9-10, and 11-14 as follows.

B4

1 (Once Amended). A method for stimulating angiogenesis within a targeted collection of viable cells in-situ, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying a collection of cells comprising viable cells in-situ as a target for stimulation of angiogenesis;

providing means for effecting an introduction of at least one member selected from the group consisting of the PR-39 oligopeptide collective to the cytoplasm of said targeted collection of cells;

and C1

introducing at least one member of the PR-39 oligopeptide collective to the cytoplasm of said targeted collection of cells using said effecting means;

allowing said introduced PR-39 oligopeptide collective member to interact with such proteasomes as are present within the cytoplasm of said targeted collection of cells whereby

(a) at least the α7 subunit of the proteasomes interacts with said PR-39 oligopeptide collective member, and

(b) at least a part of the proteolytic activity mediated by proteasomes with an interacting α7 subunit becomes <u>functionally</u> [selectively] altered, and

B4 Conti

(c) the <u>functionally</u> [selectively] altered proteolytic activity of the proteasomes with <u>said</u> [an] interacting α7 subunit results in a stimulation of angiogenesis in-situ [within the targeted collection of viable cells].

2 (Once Amended). A method for a <u>discriminating</u> [selective] inhibition of proteasome-mediated degradation of peptides in-situ within a collection of viable cells, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying a collection of cells comprising viable cells in-situ as a target;

providing means for effecting an introduction of at least one member selected from the group consisting of the PR-39 oligopeptide collective to the cytoplasm of said targeted collection of cells;

introducing at least one member of the PR-39 oligopeptide collective to the cytoplasm of said targeted collection of cells using said effecting means;

allowing said introduced PR-39 oligopeptide collective member to interact with such proteasomes as are present within the cytoplasm of said targeted collection of cells whereby

(a) at least the α7 subunit of the proteasomes interacts with the PR-39 oligopeptide collective member, and

B4 Conclude

(b) at least a part of the proteolytic activity mediated by proteasomes with an interacting α7 subunit becomes functionally [markedly] altered, and

(c) the functionally [markedly] altered proteolytic activity of the proteasomes with said [an] interacting α7 subunit results in a discriminating [selective] inhibition of proteasome-mediated degradation [of] for at least one specific peptide [peptides] in-situ [within the targeted collection of cells].

B5

5 (Once Amended). The method as recited in claim 1 or 2 wherein the means for an introduction of a PR-39 oligopeptide collective member include one selected from the group consisting of catheter-based [introduction] means, injection-based [introduction] means, infusion-based [introduction] means, localized intravascular [introduction] means, liposome-based [introduction] means, receptor-specific peptide [introduction] means, and slow-releasing means for peptide secretion in living cells and sequested organisms.

6 (Once Amended). The method as recited in claim 1 or 2 wherein the means for an introduction of a PR-39 oligopeptide collective member includes [the] DNA sequences coding for at least one PR-39 oligopeptide

collective member in an expression [PR-39 oligopeptides of different sizes inserted in a suitable] vector for transfection and subsequent expression of said peptide [peptides] within said cells.

Claim 9, line 1, delete "selectively" and insert - - markedly - -.

Claim 10, line 1, delete "selectively" and insert - - markedly - -.

11 (Once Amended). A family of PR-39 derived oligopeptides whose members are biochemically active and individually cause a functional [selective] inhibition of proteasome-mediated degradation [of] for at least one specific peptide [peptides] in-situ after introduction intracellularly to a viable cell, each member of said oligopeptide family being:

a peptide substantially less than 39 amino acid residues in length;

a peptide whose N-terminal amino acid residue sequence begins with Arg-Arg-Arg;

at least partially homologous with the N-terminal amino acid sequence of [the] native PR-39 peptide;

able to interact in-situ with at least the α7 subunit of such proteasomes as are present within the cytoplasm of the cell; and

able to alter [markedly] the functional proteolytic activity of said proteasomes having [with] an interacting α7 subunit such that a markedly

B6

Conclude

increased expression of at least one specific peptide [peptides] occurs in-situ.

Claim 12, line 1, after "claim 11", insert - - or 15 - -.

Claim 13, line 1, after "claim 11", insert - - or 15 - -.

Claim 14, line 1, after "claim 11", insert - - or 15 - -.

Add new independent claim 15 as follows.

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15. A family of PR-39 derived oligopeptides whose members are biochemically active and individually cause a functional inhibition of proteasome-mediated degradation of at least one specific peptide in-situ after introduction intracellularly to a viable cell, each member of said oligopeptide family being:

a peptide less than 20 amino acid residues in length;

a peptide whose N-terminal amino acid residue sequence begins with Arg-Arg-Arg;

at least partially homologous with the N-terminal amino acid sequence of native PR-39 peptide;